

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Lieut. H. Swilley
Intelligence Unit

DATE: April 30, 1968

FILE:

SUBJECT: Investigation of suspects
in assassination of
MARTIN LUTHER KING

FROM: Sgts. E. W. McCracken and
" Everett Kay
Intelligence Unit

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

Contact was made with a very reliable informant used by this unit in the past, known as "88". After meeting with this informant, it was learned that a possible conspiracy existed reference the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. The suspects involved are personally known by the informant "88". Information could be obtained reference this conspiracy by the informant travelling to Atlanta, Ga., Chattanooga and Memphis, Tenn. as these cities were the operation points of a group known to the informant bent on the attempt to assassinate Martin Luther King a few years back.

The Miami Police Intelligence Unit placed a concealed electronic device in a room where a conversation took place between our informant and a racist from Atlanta, where the subject of assassination of the President of the U.S., John Kennedy, was discussed, along with Martin Luther King, and plans for these deeds were programmed. According to the culprit planning this, an attempt was made to assassinate Martin Luther King in Atlanta, but the exact and prime location for the assassin was not obtained - therefore, it was not carried out.

Mentioned in this conversation was a JACK BROWN of Chattanooga, Tenn., a very likely person who may become involved in such proceedings as aforementioned. This man was very active in the Klan throughout the South. Also a subject known as MILTEER, of Atlanta, was figured closely in this hate group.

Informant "88" feels that by contacting such persons as the above, information will be gained as to what extent these people, if any, are involved in this assassination. Recent information again reflects that these two persons, along with others, may be implicated. As it is felt that these writers, Sgts. McCracken and Kay, should travel with informant, where if at all possible, concealed electronic devices may be used to record conversations of informant and suspects, and other investigation procedures.

The aforementioned information has been relayed to State Attorney's office, Al Sepe, Executive Assistant to State Attorney Gerstein, who has given permission for Sgts. McCracken and Kay to accompany informant "88" on his mission, with the State allocated funds.

Chief Headley notified of the above and has given his permission.

EK:rh

Report from "88" dictated to Rose Horvath, M.P.D. Intelligence Unit,
on Tuesday, June 11, 1968 -- 2.30 P.M. in presence of Sgt. Everett Kay, MP

I left Miami, Fla. Thurs. June 6, 1968 at 9.30 A.M. by train,
arrived in Columbia, S.C. June 6, 1968 -- 9.00 P.M. Went to the
Wade Hampton Hotel. Stayed there that night.

Next morning 6/7/68, got a cab and went to 768 Augusta St., West
Columbia, S.C. That is the location of Mims Electric. I met BELTON MIMS.
We left there and went out and had breakfast. MIMS is the first assistant
to the Grand Dragon of the ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINE KLANs. I
have known him a long time and he will give me any information he has
concerning anything that is going to happen in relation to Klan, violence,
etc. Mr. Mims has a great connection with the different patrons organi-
zations throughout the country. He told me that had been glad to see me
and missed me several times and he said this Congressman Powell, from
New York, who has quarters on Bimini Island for the Communist of America,
had been meeting with different organizations - white and colored -
whose purpose it was to overthrow the U.S. and especially to kill the
white people. He said that Powell was now on the spot to be killed
as a Communist at any time that it could possibly be done, and he told
me that I should go down at that time and see Mr. Leander H. Perese.
He is the head States Rights man of the U.S. (this is a separate
States Rights from the National). He is a former Judge and prosecutor
of St. Bernard Parish and has a son who is now prosecuting attorney
for the Parish of St. Bernard, and he has another son who is a lawyer
who has an office in the Orleans Parish.

I left Columbia, S.C. for New Orleans on Friday, June 7th, 1968 at
2.30 P.M. by Greyhound Bus. I landed in New Orleans at 9.30 A.M.
Sat. June 8th. I went across the street from the bus station and got
a room in the motel, The Tamana Downtown Motel. I got a cab and
went to St. Bernard's Parish Court House trying to find one of the Perese,
and when I got down to the Court House one of the Deputy Sheriffs told
me that Perese was out of town - that he thought Leander was in
Washington - and I couldn't find the other two before Monday - so I came
back to my hotel. Then I called Sidney Barnes in Mobile, Alabama and
told him I was down in New Orleans and was fixing to leave the next
day (Sunday) and would stop by and see him. He told me he had an
appointment to Pascacoula, Miss. Sunday morning but he says you find
out what time a bus would put me in Pascacoula and he would meet me
in the station Sunday afternoon and we would go to Mobile, Ala. together,
which is his home. Sidney Barnes lives at 1379 East Riviera Drive,
Mobile, Ala. I met him at the bus station at 4.05 Sunday PM and we
went to Robert M. Smith's residence, 1327 So. Canal St. Pascacoula, Miss.
His tel. no. is 39567. Smith had been in the patriot's business but
he had a lot of trouble with the FBI and he had been silent for some time
as far as transacting any business in the groups and he lost a lot of
money and plans to lay low until he accumulates enough money to start
out right, but he knows everybody and he knows Sidney very well and we
sat on the porch and discussed a lot of violence that went on in Miss.
the last year. Sidney Barnes and Smith both are ACTIVE but Smith is not
putting up any money to carry on any deals, because he doesn't have it.
BARNES is one of the head men in the State and knows all the connections,
and his daughter and her husband are also very active in Jackson, Miss.

SIDNEY BARNES told me that they had blowed two synagogues, one in Jackson, Miss. and one in Meridian, Miss. In Jackson - 6 months ago, and in Meridian about 6 weeks ago. He said that the man who is doing the blowing is a young man and is very intelligent in making bombs, handling machine guns and shooting rifles - that this man has been in many of the killings and shootings and bombings and he said the FBI have been trying to hook him, but they can get no Federal crime on him, but FBI is keeping him covered. Barnes said he knows exactly where he is and said he is going to try to arrange to have him meet and talk with me and wants me to come down there and ride all over the State and meet all the strong men in the different organizations, which intends to carry out various violences shortly, and he asked me would I come to Miss. and ride around the State with him. The deal would be when I come that I would be selling ads in my newspaper and he said there are plenty of people in Miss. that would take ads in the paper after he introduced me and talked to them, and told him as soon as I could get straight, I would have to call him and come down and spend some time with him. He told me a man who is very well known for violence in Alabama is over in Miss. now trying to set up some groups to really do some killings - man's name is... ACE CARTER, a well known Citizens Council man from Alabama. He said he dont know how far ACE CARTER will go but he knows that it is his intention to set up killings and bombings.

The next man that they are planning to kill is named EVERS, whose brother had been assassinated about 4 or 5 years ago and the killer was triid and acquitted in Jackson, Miss. EVERS is definitely going to get it. This man Evers run for Governor but got beat in the last election. I had supper with him at his house in Mobile and he took me to the bus station to depart for Miami. BARNES expects me to call him at his home in Mobile when it would be possible for me to come down and go around the State with him.

88:rh